

## Activity: Recreation Programs

### Activity Summary

	FY 2004 Enacted	FY 2005 Estimate	FY 2006			Change From 2005 (+/-)
			Uncontr/ Related Changes	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Recreation Programs	548	543	+11	0	554	+11
<b>Total Requirements</b>	<b>548</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>+11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>+11</b>
<i>Total FTE Requirements</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>0</i>

### Authorization

16 U.S.C. 4601 - 4601-3	The Outdoor Recreation Organic Act
16 U.S.C. 4601-6a (h)	The Land and Water Conservation Act, as amended
40 U.S.C. § 550(e)	The Federal Property and Administrative Services Act, as amended
Public Law 106-355	National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act of 2000

### Mission Overview

Recreation Programs support the National Park Service mission by contributing to the goals for the National Park Service: 1) Natural and cultural resources are conserved through formal partnership programs; and 2) through partnerships with other Federal, State, and local agencies and nonprofit organizations, a nationwide system of parks, open space, rivers, and trails provide educational, recreational, and conservation benefits for the American people. These NPS goals in turn support the DOI goals to provide recreational opportunities for America and safeguard lives, property and assets, advance scientific knowledge, and improve the quality of life for communities we serve.

The Federal Lands to Parks Program (FLP) contributes to the DOI goal to increase recreational opportunities through partnerships, adding acres of park lands. FLP also contributes to the DOI goal to ensure continued public access to recreational opportunities and works toward compliance with 40 U.S.C. § 550(e) to ensure that properties are used as intended for public parks and recreation and natural and cultural resources are protected.

### Activity Overview

**Recreation Programs** covers a range of planning, Federal coordination, and technical assistance activities. The principal activity is the Federal Lands to Parks Program, which assists State and local governments in acquiring surplus Federal real property for public parks and recreation areas. This program also provides assistance to local communities and non-profits in the transfer of historic lighthouses under the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act of 2000.

### FY 2006 Base Program Overview

The FLP program helps local communities preserve lands by facilitating transfer of surplus Federal properties (military, GSA, or other) to local and State governments. This ensures the long-term conservation by enabling local and State governments to manage locally important resources.

The Federal Lands to Parks Program (FLP) places a priority on helping communities obtain Federal properties which have been declared surplus (that is, no longer needed by the Federal Government) for public parks and recreation use, helping to meet the Department of the Interior's Strategic Plan goal, to "Provide recreation opportunities for America" and the planned outcome to "Provide for a quality recreation experience, including access and enjoyment of natural and cultural resources on ...partnered lands and waters." In partnership with State and local governments, the FLP contributes to community revitalization by providing new and expanded State and community parks, increasing close-to-home recreation, and protecting open space and important natural and cultural resources. In addition to

benefiting communities, the FLP helps the Federal government reduce its unneeded inventory of Federal land and facilities.



*This Tennessee Volunteer Army Ammunition Plant is now the third largest public park in the state.*

The FLP assists communities interested in acquiring surplus Federal land in filing their application, and acts as broker between the applicant and the Federal disposing agency (typically the General Services Administration or the Department of Defense). The FLP approves the community's application, recommends the property transfer, and prepares and conveys the deed (except for lighthouse properties), including any restrictions associated with the deed.

NPS recommendations and land transfers are based on an assessment of the community's need for the property, capability of the applicant, suitability of the property for the intended use, and a plan for the proposed park use and/or development. Because recreational use does not have priority in Federal property disposal, the NPS plays an important role in helping States and communities compete among other potential interests by communicating their needs and demonstrating the importance of ensuring long-term protection of and public access to resources. The FLP is the only Federal program that aids State and local governments in acquiring surplus Federal land for dedicated public recreation instead of paying fair market value.

Once transferred, the land is protected for public park and recreation use in perpetuity for current and future generations. The NPS helps ensure continued public access and resource protection to over 1,116 previously transferred properties through site visits, follow-up contacts, technical assistance to communities, and deed and use agreement revisions.

The NPS, through FLP, is a major partner with the Department of Defense (DOD) in the conversion of closed and realigned military bases under Base Realignment and Closure Acts (BRAC). In 2006, the FLP will continue to receive requests to assist with the conversion of military bases closing as a result of BRAC 2005, as well as bases that closed in previous BRAC rounds. In rounds of BRAC from 1988-1995, FLP staff received requests to assist on 85 of the 97 military bases subject to closure. The Park Service deeded 71 properties, including 10,692 acres, from 54 closed military bases in these BRAC rounds for public parks and recreation use. Thirty properties remain in the military disposal process pending NPS assistance and possible future transfer through FLP.



*Part of Fort Totten was obtained by New York City for a new waterfront park.*

In addition to the transfers of an increasing number of BRAC properties, the FLP screens and transfers other available Federal property through the General Services Administration and assists in implementing the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act of 2000. In cooperation with the General Services Administration and the U.S. Coast Guard, FLP assists potential local government and non-profit organization applicants, reviewing and recommending applications for historic lighthouses.

① Find the Federal Lands to Parks Program online at [www.nps.gov/flp](http://www.nps.gov/flp).

## **FY 2004 Program Performance Accomplishments**

### **Land Acquisition Accomplishments:**

- Deeded 24 surplus Federal properties (3,477 acres) in 14 states and Puerto Rico.
- Transferred 2,757 acres of a former Tennessee Volunteer Army Ammunition Plant to the City of Chattanooga and Hamilton County, creating the third largest public park in the State.
- Helped New York City acquire a 44.6-acre portion of Ft. Totten in Bayside, Queens for park use.

- Added three new sites in Kentucky in a continued effort to help communities along the Ohio River acquire former Army Corps of Engineers properties for boating access and waterfront parks. (View Ohio River case study online at [www.nps.gov/flp/ohio\\_river.pdf](http://www.nps.gov/flp/ohio_river.pdf)).
- Enabled Hood County, Texas, to obtain 73.76 acres, for its first multi-purpose regional park.
- Helped San Antonio, Texas, obtain a portion of Camp Bullis, creating unrestricted access to the well-known Dwight D. Eisenhower Park.

**Other Program Accomplishments:**

- FLP fulfilled 40 major requests from communities with past transfers to review and approve licenses, land exchanges, leases, concession agreements, utility easements, and changes in order to ensure conservation and recreational opportunity and legal compliance.
- Initiated a customer satisfaction survey for 2004 (2002 result: 92% satisfied).

**FY 2005 Planned Program Performance**

	2004 Actual	2005 Plan	2005 Plan versus 2004 actual
Partners acres of open space, parks added	3,477	7,500	4,023 (116%)
Added properties available for recreation	20	20	0 (0%)
Properties remain available	1,096	1,116	20 (1.8%)

- Continue to reduce the backlog of 30 State and local requests (7,500 acres) from past Base Realignment and Closure Acts (BRAC), as the DOD clears and assigns them for transfer.
- Help the DOD prepare for BRAC 2006 through policy and implementation planning.
- Deed approximately 20 properties (2,500 acres) of surplus Federal real property.
- Continue work with the State of Wisconsin to acquire 5,200 acres at Badger Army Ammunition Plant for addition to Devils Lake State Park, and work with the State of Illinois to acquire a significant portion of Savannah AAP.
- Assist in the transfer of 20 historic light stations.
- Respond to stewardship requests received for the 1,116 properties (119,500 acres) that have already been transferred.
- Assist (compiling and providing information as requested) the Government Accountability Office's study of public benefit conveyance programs, including compliance of transferred property.
- Complete survey to evaluate customer satisfaction with FY 2004 assistance activities, in compliance with the Government Performance and Results Act.

**Justification of FY 2006 Budget Request for Recreation Programs**

Request Component	\$ Amount	FTE
FY 2005 Budget Estimate	543	5
Programmatic Changes	0	0
<b>TOTAL, Program Changes</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Uncontrollable changes	+11	N/A
<b>FY 2006 Budget Request</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>5</b>
Net change	+11	0

The FY 2006 budget request for Recreation Programs is \$0.554 million and 5 FTE, a net increase of \$0.011 million from the 2005 enacted level.

**Performance Summary Tables: Recreation Programs**

(Includes performance supported by other National Recreation and Preservation activities, the Historic Preservation Fund and Land Acquisition – State Conservation Grants)

The Recreation Programs activity of the National Recreation and Preservation Programs provides a focus on assisting State and local governments in acquiring surplus Federal land for public parks and recreation areas. Recreation Programs' accomplishments primarily support the DOI Strategic Goal, "Provide recreation opportunities for America".

The changes to the NPS budget, represented by the President's Budget, affect the effort and consequently the results of assisting State and local governments to acquire surplus Federal lands. The following measures of performance, under the DOI Strategic Goal, "Provide recreation opportunities for America ", reflect those changes, and changes in other National Recreation and Preservation Programs, the Historic Preservation Programs, and State Grants for land acquisition, in the aggregate.

<b>End Outcome Goal 3.1: Provide Recreation for America.</b> Provide for a quality recreation experience, including access and enjoyment of natural and cultural resources on DOI managed or partnered lands and waters							
Recreation goals: Provide for recreation	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Enacted	FY 2005 Revised Plan	FY 2006 plan	Change in Performance 2005 Plan to 2006	Long-term Target (2008)
Recreational opportunities: Number of acres made available for recreation through management actions and partnerships <b>(SP, BUR IIIb1C)</b> All targets are cumulative	Partners: 846,282 acres	Partners: 886,714 acres	956,600 partners	Partners: 940,600 acres	Partners: 976,500 acres	35,900 acres Added (0.05%)	Partners: 1,050,300 acres
Percent of recreational properties assisted by the Land and Water Conservation Fund (L&WCF), the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program, and the Federal Lands to Parks Program are protected and remain available for public recreation. <b>(BUR IIIc1)</b>	100%	100% (34,240 properties)	100% (estimated 35,676)	No change	100%	NA	100%